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20-25 CR PEOPLE TO GET COVID VACCINE BY JULY 2021: CENTRE

The government estimates to receive and use up to 50 crore doses of vaccine by next July, the Union health minister said

STATES ASKED TO SUBMIT LIST BY OCTOBER-END

The Centre will ensure fair and equitable distribution of vaccines, once they are ready, Harsh Vardhan said on Sunday. The states have been asked to submit, by the end of this month, a list of priority population groups, as well as details of cold chain facilities and other related infrastructure, to ensure smooth vaccine distribution down to the block level P9

NO DECISION YET ON TRIALS OF SPUTNIK V

- To ensure transparency, the minister assured that the government will share details of the distribution process soon
- The Centre is open to assessing the feasibility of introducing several vaccines in the country, Dr Vardhan said
- No decision yet on phase-3 trials of the Russian vaccine in India

9.37 lakh

ACTIVE COVID-19 CASES IN INDIA AS OF SUNDAY EVENING

CHENNAI • MADURAI • VIJAYAWADA • BENGALURU • KOCHI • HYDERABAD • VISAKHAPATNAM • COIMBATORE • KOZHIKODE • THIRUVANANTHAPURAM • BELAGAVI • BHUBANESWAR • SHIVAMOGGA • MANGALURU • TIRUPATI • TIRUCHY • TIRUNELVELI • SAMBALPUR • HUBBALLI • DHARWAD • KOTTAYAM • KANNUR • VILLUPURAM • KOLLAM • WARANGAL • TADEPALLIGUDEM • NAGAPATTINAM • THRISSUR • KALABURAGI

TODAY'S MATCH

DELHI vs BANGALORE

In-form Royal Challengers Bangalore and Delhi Capitals meet in Dubai on Monday after winning three out of four matches. A victory will help the team go top of the standings. Though both teams are almost on equal footing, Shreyas Iyer's Delhi have an upper hand due to their pacers Kagiso Rabada and Anrich Nortje.

ODDS: DC: 9/10 RCB:1/1

LIVE: Star Sports1/Hotstar @ 7.30pm

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi and Punjab CM Amarinder Singh participate in a tractor rally in Punjab on Sunday | AFP

Will bin farm laws if Cong wrests Centre, says Rahul

Attacks Modi, says he is only working to facilitate a few corporates; questions the hurry to pass legislations in RS without due process

HARPREET BAJWA @ Chandigarh

FORMER Congress president Rahul Gandhi on Sunday described the three recently passed farm sector reform Acts as black laws, saying the day his party comes to power at the Centre, all three would be scrapped and consigned to the wastepaper basket.

Addressing a rally at Badni Kalan in Moga as part of his three-day 'Save Farming Yatra' before joining a tractor rally that wound its way through Moga and Ludhiana districts, Rahul described the Centre as a puppet of corporate biggies like the Adanis and the Ambanis.

He charged that Prime Minister Narendra Modi had misled the nation for the past six years and had only served the interests of two to three large corporate houses of his billionaire friends.

Rahul cited demonetisation, the goods and services tax (GST) regime and the debt and tax waiver of big industrialists amid the pandemic as Modi's favour to the corporate leaders, charging that the poor and the farmers did not get even a rupee's aid.

"What was the need to implement these farm laws amid Covid-19? The Prime Minister says laws are being framed for farmers. If that is the case, why didn't you discuss them openly in the House?" he questioned. He was referring to the hurried passage of the bills in the Rajya Sabha amid ruckus through voice vote.

The new laws, Rahul argued, were aimed at eventually dismantling the minimum support price (MSP) mechanism and the Food Corporation of India (FCI) procurement system, which would break the backbone of the farmers, just as the British had done to seize control of India.

While the tried and tested system that stands on the three pillars of MSP, food procurement and mandis does need reforms, the Congress will allow it to be destroyed, he said.

Earlier, Punjab Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh labelled the Centre's approach to agriculture as one that would kill farmers and Punjab.

"India used to borrow from across the world to feed its people till Punjab farmers took the charge of feeding them," he claimed. He said the fight will continue till the laws are amended and a written Constitutional guarantee given on MSP and FCI. P10

Centre will eventually kill MSP, warns Capt

Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh said he feared the Centre might pay MSP for a couple of crops, but would eventually scrap it. "Attempts were being made to stifle the collective voice of the farmers, who had come together in this fight," he said

Pressure to order judicial probe

NAMITA BAJPAI @ Lucknow

THREE new pressure points emerged on Sunday in the horrific gang-rape and murder of a Hathras girl that has left the nation horrified. While her family pushed for a judicial probe and the political class joined their call for the District Magistrate Praveen Kumar Laxkar's transfer, the counter consolidation of upper caste members claiming the four arrested youth in the case had been framed, was equally noteworthy.

A day after the state government recommended a CBI probe, the victim's brother changed tack, demanding a judicial probe instead. "It doesn't matter who investigates the matter, our questions are still unanswered. Why has no action been taken against the Hathras DM, who misbehaved with my family members and tried to threaten them? We want justice, we want a probe monitored by a Supreme Court judge," he said.

SP, RLD attempt to storm Hathras village

SP and RLD leaders tried to barge into the victim's Boolgarhi village on Sunday along with hundreds of supporters after breaking barricades. The district police had to use force to disperse them

His demand was echoed by BSP chief Mayawati and Congress general secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, who sought immediate action against the DM. Mayawati said no impartial inquiry into the matter would be possible if the DM stays in the saddle.

Amid mounting pressure, upper caste mahapanchayats are being held in different parts on a daily basis to try to change the narrative. A mahapanchayat held on Sunday drew hundreds of upper caste members from around 30 villages. Hailing the government's recommendation for a CBI probe, they questioned the objections of the victim's family to the narco-analysis and polygraphic tests as well.

Meanwhile, a Special Investigation Team recorded the statements of the victim's family. P9

WITH THIS ISSUE
CAMPUS DIGEST edex
34 PAGES, INCLUDING 16 OF edex (TABLOID) & 4 OF CITY EXPRESS

Many choose to write TET over UPSC

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

WITH the Karnataka Teacher Eligibility Test (TET) and the Union Public Services Commission (UPSC) Prelims 2020 clashing on Sunday, many preferred to take the former over the Central competitive examinations.

As there were only two centres — Bengaluru and Dharwad — for the UPSC prelims, most candidates who had registered for both the competitive exams preferred taking the TET, mainly because of uncertainties over when the next TET will be held. The UPSC Prelims are conducted annually, but was delayed until October 4 this year due to the pandemic.

As many as 2,04,441 students attempted the TET, recording 84 per cent attendance. The figures for UPSC Prelims attendance across the state (mainly in Bengaluru and Dharwad) were still being compiled, but officials admitted that it was thin. P2

Ram Vilas Paswan has heart surgery

Union minister and LJP patron Ram Vilas Paswan (74) underwent heart surgery in Delhi, his son Chirag said on Sunday. He had to undergo heart surgery due to sudden developments on Saturday evening. It forced him to cancel a party meeting and rush to his father's side, Chirag tweeted. If needed, he will undergo another surgery in a few weeks, he added

Fratricide looms in Bihar as LJP exits NDA

MANISH ANAND & RAJESH KUMAR THAKUR @ New Delhi/Patna

THE Bihar political script changed a tad on Sunday with NDA ally Lok Jan Shakti Party (LJP) deciding to go it alone in the state Assembly elections. Stating that the LJP will seek a BJP-led government in Bihar, the Chirag Paswan-led outfit said it will field nominees against the JD(U) in 143 seats.

Hours before the Central Election Committee (CEC) of the BJP met to clear its list of party nominees, the LJP left the NDA at the state level citing "ideological differences with the JD(U)".

"There's no bad blood between the BJP and the LJP. The victorious candidates of the party after the polls will support a BJP-LJP government," the LJP said in a statement. After the BJP's CEC meeting, there were indications that the seat-sharing formula could be announced in Patna soon.

The decision of the LJP to go solo could hurt Chief Minister Nitish Kumar's JD(U). "This decision of the LJP is aimed at pruning Nitish Kumar's political stature amid anti-incumbency. It will harm the performances of JD(U) without harming the electoral prospects of the BJP," said Dr R K Sinha, a prominent political analyst in Bihar.

Within the LJP, the wily Nitish Kumar's 'Mahadalit plank' is seen as an attempt to cut the Paswan family to size as he is promoting former chief minister Jitan Ram Manjhi. While the LJP claims to represent the state's 16% Dalit constituency as well as the Bhumihars, the JD(U) and the BJP have been making significant inroads into their support base.

Chirag Paswan is itching to lead Bihar and wants to test the political waters now. Thus far, the LJP has contested elections in alliances, mindful of the limitation of its support base, with his father Ram Vilas Paswan generally managing to stay on the winning side.

While a little amused, the BJP, too, will be keenly watching Paswan junior's moves. P10

C T Ravi quits as minister, readies for national role

ANUSHA RAVI @ Bengaluru

KARNATAKA Tourism Minister C T Ravi became the first minister in the one-year-old B S Yediyurappa Cabinet to tender his resignation. Recently elevated as BJP national general secretary, Ravi, who heads the Tourism, Kannada and Culture ministries, submitted his resignation in keeping with the party's 'one-man-one-post' policy.

Ravi, who has worked as deputy in-charge in Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, Andaman and Nicobar during the 2019 Lok Sabha elections, is expected to be made in-charge general secretary of the same states and UTs. He had also worked as election joint in-charge for Tamil Nadu in the 2016 Assembly election, under now BJP national general secretary (organisation) B L Santhosh. D Purandareswari, Lok Sabha MP from Visakhapatnam, is expected to be named in charge of Karnataka, replacing Muralidhar Rao.

Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa, however, is undecided on his accepting his resignation.

CONTINUED ON: P4

NEXT CORPS COMMANDERS' MEETING ON OCT 12

MAYANK SINGH @ New Delhi

THE seventh round of India-China Corps Commanders meeting will be held on October 12, Army sources confirmed on Sunday.

"Our aim is clear that there should be an early disengagement," a senior Army officer said. The talks come after the 19th meeting of the Working Mechanism for Consultation and Coordination on India-China Border Affairs (WMCC) on September 30, in which the two sides had agreed to another round of Corps Commanders meet so that both sides can "work towards early and complete disengagement of the troops along the LAC".

During the sixth round of Corps Commanders meeting held on September 21, the two sides agreed to not send more troops to the frontline, refrain from unilaterally changing the situation on the ground and avoid taking any actions that may further complicate the tense situation.

Lt Gen DS Hooda (retd) said there are ground to believe that the seventh round of Corps Commanders meet will see a breakthrough.

TARGET VILLAGES

Get nutrition from your own backyard, govt will pay

ASHWINI M SRIPAD @ Bengaluru

THE State Government seems to have given some thought for food and it believes that growing your dietary needs in your own backyard can be rewarding.

All people have to do is plant it, grow it, eat it. The government has come up with the Nutrition Garden campaign, where it will pay money to individual families in villages to grow vegetables and fruits in their backyard to get nutritious food and generate additional income. The government will give Rs 2,600 per family for one time.

The Department of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj (RDPR) will target more than 60,000 rural families across the state under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MNREGA) scheme. Till now, under the scheme, the department had been taking up works like lakes, roads and construction of sheds for cattle.

The department will give seedlings of perennial plants like drumsticks, papaya, curry leaves, lemon, fruits like chikku, mango, jackfruit, guava and pomegranate. This apart, depending on the space, people can also grow vegetables of their choice.

There are 6,027 Gram Panchayats in Karnataka and 10 families per panchayat have been chosen. The campaign, which started a few days back, is expected to complete the target by November-end. P5

No. of families to benefit

Bagalkot (1,980), Belagavi (5,060), Dharwad (1,440), Haveri (2,240), U-K(2,310), Shivamogga (2,710), Bengaluru Rural (1,050), Ramanagara (1,270), Kolar (1,560), Bengaluru Urban (960), Tumakuru (3,310), Ballari (2,370), Kalburgi (2,640), Dakshina Kannada(2,300), Hassan (2,670), Kodagu(1,040), Mandya (2,340), Mysuru (2,660)

ರಾಣಿ ಚನ್ನಮ್ಮ ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾಲಯ
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ನಿರ್ದೇಶಕರು, ಇಸ್ರೋ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು

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